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MEMORANDUM

Date: December 22, 2021

To: Grafton Conservation Commission

From: Arthur Allen

Re: Peer Review of 179 & 183 Upton Street, Grafton, MA (DEP File Nos. 164-1018 & 164-1019)

Via E-Mail

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I have completed my review of the Notices of Intent (NOI) and attachments for these projects and have visited the project sites. The documents that I reviewed are listed below. My comments, with recommendations in *italics*, are listed below.

Documents Reviewed

- ✓ DEP File Number Comment Pages;
- ✓ Revised Notices of Intent (WPA Form 3) and attachments under covers dated December 8, 2021;
- ✓ On-Site Sewage Disposal site plans, revised through December 8, 2021.

Project Comments & Recommendations

1. The projects are listed on the DEP website with file numbers and comments pertaining to the wetland delineations.
2. The project sites are both encumbered by Bordering Vegetated Wetlands, Riverfront Area, Bordering Lands Subject to Flooding and associated Buffer Zones. The wetlands are associated with Miscoe Brook, Silver Lake and two tributaries carrying intermittent streams. I am in agreement with all delineated Bordering Vegetated Wetlands, as depicted on the project plans.
3. Current and former USGS maps depict Silver Lake as an impoundment of Miscoe Brook and there is clearly a transition between the Lake and the Brook in terms of Riverfront Area determination. The applicant's representative field delineated the transition starting at flag R0 with the Brook to the northeast and the Lake to the southwest. *During my site evaluation, I noted unidirectional stream flow down to approximately wetland flag No. 25, which is further downstream than flag R0. I added two pink flags labeled RA1 and RA2 to extend the Mean Annual High Water Line for Miscoe Brook. Flag RA1 connects to R0. No flow was observed below flag RA2 and the Lake opens up, at this point. These additional flags should be located and the Riverfront Area adjusted, along with adjusted calculations for Riverfront Area impacts.*

4. The Notice of Intent for 183 Upton Street was filed as a “Buffer Zone-only” project. *With the adjusted Riverfront Area, it appears that some of the proposed work will fall within the Outer Riparian Zone and the NOI should be adjusted accordingly.*

Please advise with any questions.

AA/ Monitoring/Grafton 179 & 183 Upton EcoTec Memo 12.22.2021